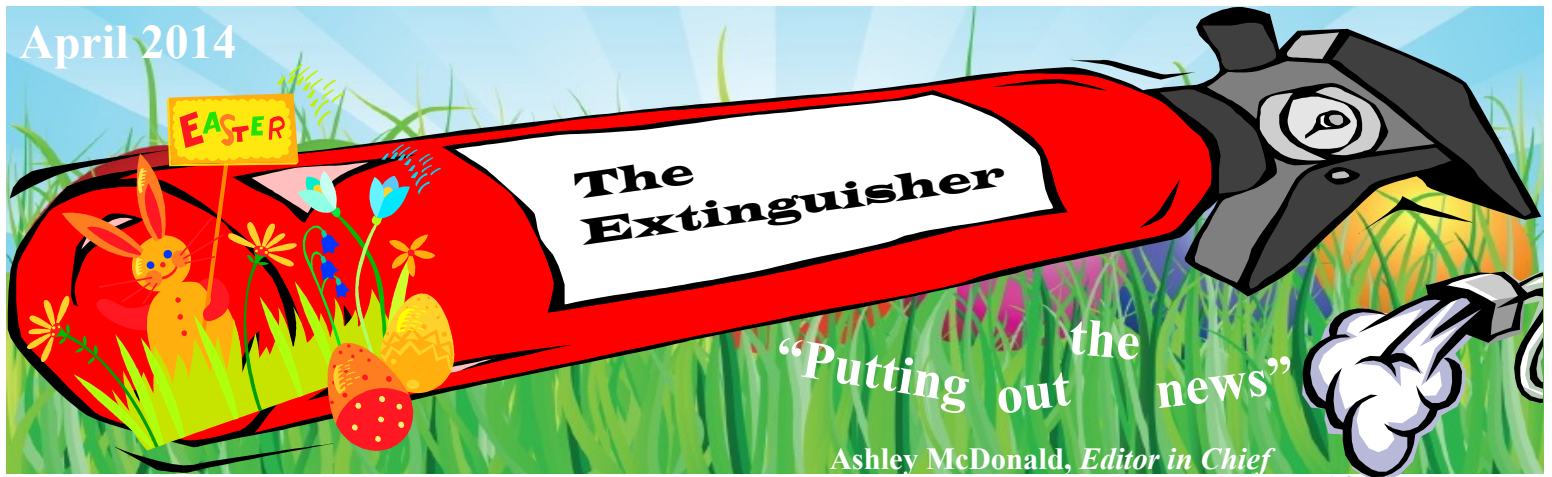


April 2014



Ashley McDonald, Editor in Chief



## Birthdays

Richard Crick 4/4

Kernie Cothran 4/8

Jeremy McCullough 4/9

Josh Warren 4/12

William Durkin 4/17

Daphanie Crenshaw 4/18

Tim Lampitt 4/22

Greg Burt 4/28



If you notice MFRD personnel providing exemplary service, displaying professionalism, or representing the City of Murfreesboro in a positive light, please share your experience by nominating them for a Service Excellence Stars Award.

[Click here for more information or to Nominate a STAR.](#)

## FOUR MFRD PERSONNEL RECEIVE COMMENDATIONS FOR BABY DELIVERY

Four Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department personnel received Letters of Commendation from Fire Chief Cumbey Gaines March 20 for successfully delivering a baby girl on February 24.

According to the letter, Acting Captain Vular Anderson, Driver Adam P. Brown, and Firefighters Ryan Battle and Justin Lewis responded to a medical call involving a woman in labor. The crew assisted with delivery of the baby, freed the nuchal cord from her neck, and assisted Rutherford County EMS with patient care of the mother.



Front Row: Driver Vular Anderson/ Back Row (L to R): Firefighter Ryan Battle, Driver Adam P. Brown, Deputy Chief Roger Toombs, and Firefighter Justin Lewis.

The letter stated, "It is not every day in our line of work that we encounter something like this. The crew worked together to make sure this baby entered into this world and that the mother was taken care of as well."

Chief Gaines told the group, "I appreciate all you do and I am proud that you are a part of this department."

## MFRD HOSTS FIRST ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department held its first annual Remembrance Ceremony for Fallen Firefighters March 1 at the site of the Rutherford County Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

During the ceremony, the department honored the only two confirmed line of duty deaths in MFRD's history. Seventy-five years ago on March 1, Firefighters AC Cartwright and Winfred Vaughn were killed on the way to a grass fire when the truck they were riding on was struck by another vehicle.

Maggi Vaughn, Poet Laureate of Tennessee and daughter of Winfred Vaughn, recited a poem she wrote for the occasion about fallen firefighters across the nation.

MFRD's national award-winning Honor Guard performed a traditional bell ringing ceremony and placed one rose each for both Cartwright and Vaughn at the base of the memorial.

"We would like to thank all those who attended the ceremony," said Chief Cumbey Gaines. "The crowd of people showing support for these fallen firefighters, speaks volumes of how our citizens are appreciative of those who lay their lives on the line every day."

Continued on Page 2

## REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY CONTINUED...

The Rutherford County Fallen Firefighters Memorial was dedicated in January 2011. It is located on the northwest corner of Murfreesboro's public square.



View more photos from the ceremony [here](#).

## MFRD ACQUIRES 25 PULSE OXIMETERS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department recently acquired 25 new pulse oximeters that will be placed on each frontline apparatus. Pulse oximeters provide a fast and accurate solution for spot-checking oxygen saturation and pulse rate in pediatric and adult patients. The department is currently awaiting in-service training and protocols from Rutherford County EMS before putting the devices to use.



## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK: (APRIL 13-19)

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week is April 13-19, 2014. It is designated as a time when citizens can thank public safety men and women and dispatch emergency professionals. Don't forget to say "thank you" to our fantastic Dispatchers at the City of Murfreesboro!

The Police/Fire Dispatcher of the Year will be featured in next month's issue.



## TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIREFIGHTING CERTIFICATIONS

It has been a while since MFRD has reported on personnel obtaining certifications from the State of Tennessee Commission on Firefighting. Therefore, it's time to catch up!

### June 2013

Jamie Layhew-Officer I

### July 2013

Jason Norris-Journeyman Firefighter

### August 2013

Jacob Follis-Journeyman Firefighter

Lance Sutton-Fire Safety Compliance Officer II

### September 2013

Ashley Johnson-Journeyman Firefighter

### October 2013

Taylor Lasseter-Officer I

Lance Sutton-Officer II

### November 2013

Jeremy Morris-Officer I

### January 2014

Allan Debowsky-Journeyman Firefighter

### February 2014

Joshua Parsons-Fire Apparatus Operator

John Flynt-Fire Apparatus Operator

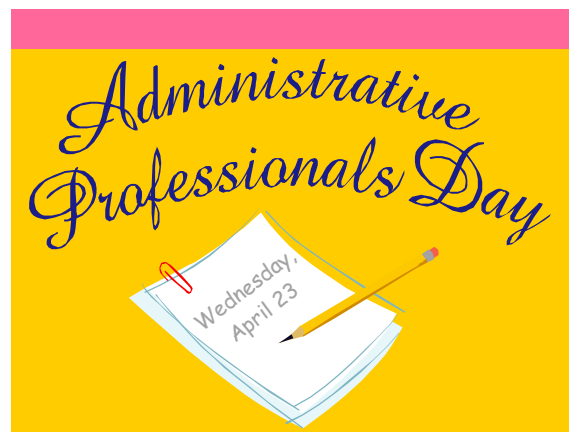
Titus Jackson-Officer I

### March 2014

Marcus King-Firefighter I

Matthew Lupo-Officer I

*\* info provided by TC Billy Vinson*





# MFRD PARTICIPATES IN MOCK DRILL AT SIEGEL HIGH SCHOOL

Approximately 800 students from Siegel High School witnessed an emotional mock vehicle crash in their parking lot on March 21. The drill was conducted by Rutherford County Schools and Siegel High School faculty as part of "Safety Week." The purpose was to discourage teens from texting and driving.

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department, Murfreesboro Police Department, Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, Rutherford County EMS, and Vanderbilt Life Flight participated as emergency responders during the mock incident.

MFRD has two full photo albums on our Facebook page: one has photos taken by [TC Billy Vinson](#), the other has photos taken by [Loveless Fine Photography](#).





## BIGELOW NAMED FF OF THE MONTH APRIL 2014

Captain Jamie Bigelow has been named Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Firefighter of the Month for April 2014. Bigelow received the honor because of a compelling nomination from a co-worker.

According to one of the firefighters on Bigelow's crew, the crew stopped in a McDonald's one morning and Bigelow was talking with several young children and three adults. Bigelow asked them "How are you?" The family confided in Bigelow about some hardships they had experienced. Bigelow's firefighter witnessed him buying the entire family's meal. He also overheard Bigelow tell them everything would be okay. The firefighter stated in his nomination that one of the ladies even began to cry, displaying her obvious appreciation for his generosity. The firefighter went on to say that Bigelow displays this "above and beyond leadership" every day.

Bigelow has been with MFRD since December 1997.



### April Anniversaries

#### 36 YEARS

Ricky Jones

#### 30 YEARS

Eddie Mitchell

#### 15 YEARS

Joe Bell

Roy Fugate

Dwajuan Howse

#### 3 YEARS

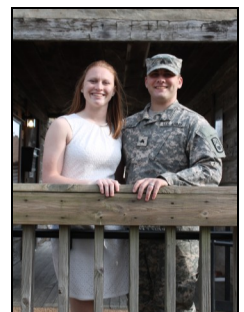
Ryan Battle

Jeff Clementi

### WELCOME/ MCGRIF WEDDING



Congratulations  
to Firefighter  
Ashley  
Welcome and  
Jason McGriff  
who tied the  
knot on March  
14, 2014 in  
Murfreesboro!



## MFRD USES PET RESCUE MASKS TO SAVE TWO CATS DURING HOUSE FIRE

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's District 9 and Engine 1 responded to a house fire at 2809 Holsted Drive on March 6.

Crews arrived on scene to find light smoke exiting the structure. It was unknown if anyone was inside, so crews began a primary search and found no occupants. Crews worked quickly to extinguish the fire.

Two cats in distress were taken outside and hooked up to oxygen with the use of the department's recently acquired pet rescue masks. Their breathing became less labored and they were transported by Engine 1 to the Animal Medical Center on River Rock Boulevard for further care.

"Crews got on the fire quickly," said Shift Commander Dale Maynard. "Attention then shifted to saving the family's two cats," he continued. "This is the first time we've used the pet rescue masks, and they worked well."

### PET RESCUE MASKS

MFRD received a donation of four pet rescue kits from retired Murfreesboro Police Officer Joanna Medlen in December 2013. The "Wag'n O2 Fur Life" kits were placed on each of the department's rescue trucks. Each kit contains oxygen masks in various sizes, oxygen air tubes, a carry bag, instructions, and a kennel lead.

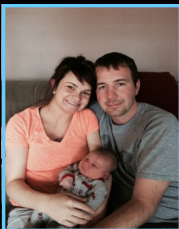


Photo courtesy of Larry Flowers of WMSV

Joanna Medlen pictured with MFRD Firefighter Adam Petrig with the four Wag'n O2 Fur Life kits.

### UPDATE ON CATS

Post incident, the cats were listed in critical, yet stable condition. According to the homeowner, both cats made a full recovery!



**COLLIN REESE  
GAITHER**

SON OF JONATHAN & FELICIA

BORN: MARCH 4, 2014

AT 8 LBS / 11 OZ

21" LONG